

Message Text

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TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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DEPT OF THE TREASURY

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TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: AUGUST 2 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. INDOCHINA

GROUP 49 PEOPLE, MOSTLY AMCITS, DEPENDENTS, ARRIVE BANGKOK FROM SAIGON, MARKING VIRTUAL END TO US PRESENCE SVN. UN SPOKESMAN QUOTES VN AUTHORITIES THAT NOT INTERESTED KEEPING AMERICANS IN VN SINCE HAVE MORE IMPORTANT THINGS DO THAN WORRY ABOUT THEM. ABOUT 4 AMCITS BELIEVED STILL IN VN. OUTLOOK OF EVACUEES ON VN DEVELOPMENTS "AS VARIED AS THEIR PERSONAL HISTORIES"; 1 SPOKE OF DISEASE, LACK NECESSITIES IN NEW ECON AREAS; SOME WANTED STAY (AP SUN, PHINQ). NYT, SUN CARRY AP LIST AMCITS/US RESIDENTS WHO CAME OUT, WITH SOME BIO-DATA. NYT TELLS STORY NYC POSTAL WORKER WHO RETURNED SAIGON BEFORE FALL TO LOOK FOR VIET WIFE; RECOUNTS HIS TALE OF HARD LIFE WHILE AWAITING EVACUATION. RHODES (SUN 8/1) SAYS US-BORN 10-YR-OLD RICHARD ANH-TU "APPARENTLY" REMAINED BEHIND; QUOTES DOS' UNCLASSIFIED

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SIEVERTS THAT BOY'S NAME NOT ON LIST IS "MATTER OF SERIOUS CONCERN." ONE AMCIT WANTED STAY, APPLIED FOR VN CITIZENSHIP, NEVER HEARD FROM AUTHORITIES (AP, NYT).

NYT'S ANDELMAN DESCRIBES ARRIVAL BANGKOK 23 AMCITS, 26 DEPENDENTS. ADDS OF 4 STILL BELIEVED SAIGON, 3 EXPECTED

LEAVE WITHIN WK. NOTES NO OFFICIAL REASON GIVEN FOR HANOI DECISION RELEASE LAST LARGE GROUP, BUT QUOTES UNHCR OFFICIAL THAT VN CONSCIOUS NEED NORMALIZE RELS WITH US. MENTIONS EXPERIENCES OF SEVERAL. EADS (WP) GIVES DETAILS ARRIVAL FRENCH CARAVELLE. SAYS NO EVACUEES SUSCRIBED TO THEORY THAT WERE "HOSTAGES" FOR US AID. QUOTES DIPL OBSERVERS THAT RELEASE LATEST IN SERIES IMAGE-IMPROVING MOVES, SUCH AS RECENT OFFICIAL VISITS TO SEA COUNTRIES. SAYS ALL EVACUEES AGREE SAIGON CONDITIONS DIFFICULT, GETTING WORSE. LAT'S MCARTHUR (GLOBE) IDENTIFIED TUCKER GUGGLEMEN, AMCIT NOT EVACUATED, AS EX-CIA MAN NOW IN JAIL; NOTES EXISTENCE NOT ACKNOWLEDGED BY HANOI.

ITALY ASKS NVN EXPERT ON JUNGLE DEFOLIANTS COME TO HELP DETOXYFY AREA CONTAMINATED BY POISONOUS FUMES (UPI, NYT).

CAMBODIAN PREMIER POL POT PAINTS GRIM PICTURE: TELLS VNNA COUNTRY HAS MEDICAL PROBLEMS, BARELY ENOUGH FOOD, NO MEANS BUILD FACTORIES TO SPUR ECONOMY, HAS HAD FEW CULTURAL ACHIEVEMENTS. POL POT CHARGES "U.S. IMPERIALISTS" HAD PLAN OVERTHROW GOVT 6 MOS AFTER VICTORY, DOES NOT MENTION DEATH/FAMINE CAUSED BY EVACUATION CITIES, NOR REPORTED EXECUTIONS (WP 7/31; UPI, NYT 8/1).

CAMBODIA ESTABLISHES DIPL RELS WITH GREECE, JAPAN (WP). FRANCE SUSPENDS CAMBODIAN MISSION, ASKED PP WITHDRAW EMBASSY; SAYS MOVE DUE PP'S CONTINUED SILENCE ON FRENCH REQUESTS FOR NORMAL DIPL RELS (WP 7/31; REUTER, NYT 8/1). CAMBODIAN DIPL MISSION PARIS DESCRIBES REQUEST AS "NEW UNFRIENDLY ACT," ACCUSES FRANCE GIVING AID, PROTECTION TO CAMBODIAN "TRAITORS," ENCOURAGING PRESS CAMPAIGNS AGAINST PP.

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2. INDOCHINA/THAILAND

SEA BATTLE ERUPTS BETWEEN 2 CAMBODIAN GUNBOATS, RTG NAVY SHIP AFTER 2 THAI FISHING BOATS ATTACKED; 1 FISHING BOAT SUNK, 1 CAMBODIAN VESSEL DAMAGED (AP, WP).

3. THAILAND

ANDELMAN (NYT 8/1) DESCRIBES RE-EMERGENCE MILITANT RIGHT-WING IN SOCIETY, POLITICS AFTER 3-YR ECLIPSE. SEES RESURGENCE MARKED BY NEW HIT SONG THAT SLAMS LEFTISTS, INFLAMMATORY RHETORIC OF ARMY RADIO STATION; SAYS MANY THINK HEAVY HAND THAI MILITARY EVIDENT IN RECENT EVENTS:

STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS PLANNED FOR LAST DAY US WITHDRAWAL DID NOT MATERIALIZE; LARGE MIL PURCHASES WENT THRU; ANTI-CORRUPTION MEASURE ADVOCATED BY SENI DEFEATED. THINKS RIGHT'S NEW POPULARITY DUE ABILITY ADDRESS KEY FEARS/ASPIRATIONS SUCH AS RISE VIOLENT CRIME, PARANOIA OVER COMMUNISM, WIDENING GAP BETWEEN RICH/POOR.

USG PROSECUTOR SAYS FORMER THAI EMBASSY EMPLOYEE SUWAN RATANA WHO RESIDES MD ACTUALLY MILLIONAIRE HEROIN DEALER (SUN 7/31).

4. BURMA

KRAMER (WSJ) TELLS OF REPAIRS BEING MADE TO EARTHQUAKE RUIN AT PAGAN. SAYS DAMAGE FOUND LESS THAN THOUGHT YR AGO. QUOTES DIRECTOR THAT EXPECTS WORK TAKE 5 YRS.

5. KOREA

GM SUBSIDIARY SAID SATURDAY HAS BEGUN BUILD 11 MILLION DOL PLANT NEAR SEOUL TO MAKE TRUCK CABS/CAR BODIES. CAPACITY 60,000 UNITS/YR (AP SUN 7/31).

6. JAPAN

SIXTH ANA EXEC, NAOJI WATANABE, INDICTED SATURDAY FOR PERJURY IN LOCKHEED PROBE. ALREADY UNDER ARREST ON SUSPICION (AP, WSTAR 8/1; WP 8/1).
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DEP STR YEUTTER ENDED 3-DAY TRADE TALKS TOKYO FRIDAY. TOOKUP MTN, US AUTO-MAKERS' COMPLAINT THAT SLOW GOJ SAFETY CERTIFICATION TANTAMOUNT TO NTB. TOLD PRESS "EXCEPTIONALLY PLEASED" AT POSITIVE REACTION BY GOJ OFFICIALS ON AUTO- (AP, SUN 7/3,, NYT 7/31).

JCP ENDED FIRST SPECIAL CONVENTION SINCE WW II FIRDAY. ADOPTED NEW MANIFESTO/PLATFORM. DROPPED TERMS LIKE "DICTATORSHIP OF THE PROLETARIAT" IN FAVOR OF "POWER OF THE WORKING CLASS." SEEN AS LATEST EFFORT BY CHAIRMAN MIYAMOTO TO OVERCOME PUBLIC DISTRUST, WIN POWER VIA BALLOT BOX (REUTER, SUN 7/31).

CULLISON (JOC) SAYS MIKI TOLD CABINET FRIDAY MAY CALL EXTRAORDINARY DIET SESSION "WITHIN WEEK OR SO" AMID GROWING CONCERN NATL PRE-OCCUPATION WITH LOCKHEED SCANDAL MAY HAMPER RECOVERY.

JAPAN AUTO MAKERS ASSN SAID SATURDAY FIRST HALF EXPORTS SET ALL TIME RECORD, 1,831, 215 UNITS. 53.3 PCT INCREASE OVER FIRST HALF 1975. LED BY SWIFTLY CLIMBING EXPORTS TO US (CULLISON).

JUNE COLOR TV EXPORTS SET MONTHLY RECORD 493,710 UNITS.
OVER HALF TO US. EXCEEDED DOMESTIC SHIPMENTS FIRST TIME
SINCE MARCH 1974 (CULLISON).

EUR SHIPBUILDERS PLAN MEET WITH JAPANESE ROME SEPT 15,
WILL ASK FOR VOLUNTARY RESTRAINT FOR FEAR JAPAN MAY
BUILD 60 PCT WORLD TONNAGE BY 1981, DRIVE THEM OUT OF
BUSINESS (CSM, ROME).

7. PHILIPPINES

LESLIE (LAT 7/30) SAYS PHILS' OLYMPIC TEAM'S POOR
PERFORMANCE HAS FALLEN SHORT "GENERALLY LOW EXPECTATIONS"
MOST FILS HELD OUT FOR IT. MARCOS ANNOUNCES LAUNCHING
NATL SPORTS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. JACOBS (LAT 7/30)
NOTES PHIL CONSUL AT LA, PACIFICO EVANGELISTA APPOINTED
BE GOP'S FIRST AMBASSADOR TO NZ.
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GOP REVIEWS RECORDS 4600 DETAINEES IN PREPARATION FOR
GRANTING TEMPORARY RELEASE TO ALL BUT THOSE ACCUSED SERIOUS
CRIMES (NYT 8/1).

8. AUSTRALIA

PM FRASER SAID SUNDAY THAT US WITHDRAWAL FROM SVN,
COLLAPSE GVN, DID LESS DAMAGE IN ASIA THAN FEARED.
ADDED GOA, JAPAN STILL HAVE FULL CONFIDENCE IN
CAPACITY/RESOLUTION OF US TO MEET COMMITMENTS (WP; CSM).

FORMER EMPLOYEES GROUP IN US APPEALS FEDL JUDGE'S RULING
THAT BANKRUPT REA SHOULD SELL CERTAIN ASSETS TO US UNIT
OF SYDNEY'S THOMAS NATIONWIDE TRANSPORT LTD (NYDN).
SHIRLEY MACLAINE CANCELS 600,000 DOLS IN AUSSIE BOOKINGS
TO MAKE MOVIE (SMITH, NYDN).

9. GENERAL

UN CONFERENCE ON LOS BEGINS 5TH ATTEMPT AGREE ON
COMPREHENSIVE LEGAL CODE AT NYC (UPI, WSJ).

UNDER PRESSURE FROM SOYBEAN PRODUCERS, USG WILL NO LONGER
SUPPORT INTL LOANS TO ENCOURAGE PALM-OIL PRODUCTION IN
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (NYT).

10. CHINA

ALL MEDIA GAVE HEAVY COVERAGE OF CHINA EARTHQUAKE OVER
WEEKEND. MANY PHOTOS.

CASUALTY TOLL UNKNOWN. MFA OFFICIAL TOLD BULGARIAN

AMB NUMBER DEAD/INJURED MAY REACH HIGH AS MILLION (WP 8/1, WSJ). PRC OFFICIALS WARN OF POSSIBLE NEW AFTERSHOCKS, OFFER ASSIST FOREIGNERS EVACUATE (UPI, WSTAR 8/1). REUTER'S GRIFFITHS SAYS FOREIGNERS BEGIN MASS EXODUS FROM PEKING SUNDAY (WP). DEAN SAID USLO PLANS FLY WIVES, DEPENDENT CHILDREN TO TOKYO VIA PIA FLIGHT MONDAY (AP, SUN, NYDN; AFP, NYT, PHINQ). GATES WILL REAMIN ON DUTY PEKING (AFP, NYT).
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50 UK DEPENDENTS, 25 AUSSIES, MANY OTHERS EVACUATED TO CANTON (REUTER, CSM, NYT).

SUBSTANTIAL STRUCTURAL CRACKS SEEN IN OUTSIDE WALL OF GREAT HALL OF PEOPLE (GLOBE AND MAIL'S MONRO, NYT 8/1).

VIRTUALLY ALL PEKING BUILDINGS EMPTIED TO LESSEN CASUALTIES IF NEW TREMORS OCCUR. TROOPS WITH FIXED BAYONETS PATROL STREETS TO ENFORCE GOVT ORDER ALL CHINESE/FOREIGNERS REMAIN OUTDOORS (WP 8/1).

NCNA REPORT SUNDAY DEALT MOSTLY WITH PEKING. LEFT IMPRESSION SITUATION IN DENSELY-POPULATED COAL MINING CENTER TANGSHANG "TOO SERIOUS" DISCUSS PUBLICLY (MATHEWS, WP 8/1). HSINHUA SAID "OVERWHELMING MAJORITY" MINERS TRAPPED IN CAVE-INS RESCUED; GAVE NO DEATH TOLL, DID NOT TELL HOW MANY STILL TRAPPED (AP, SUN). DIPL OBSERVERS FEAR FEW OF 1.6 MILLION IN TANGSHAN ESCAPED DEATH/INJURY (WP 7/31). ASAHI REPORTED 80 PCT OF BUILDINGS IN TANGSHAN DESTROYED (WSTAR 7/31). NIHON KEIZAI PRINTED EYE-WITNESS STATEMENTS BY JAPANESE INJURED IN TANGSHAN (WSTAR 7/31).

RED ARMY CELEBRATED 49TH ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY, BY LEADING ESTIMATED MILLION RELIEF WORKERS IN SEARCH FOR VICTIMS (UPI, WSTAR 8/1). MOST CIVIL AIRCRAFT SEEN COMMANDEERED TO MOVE RESCUE WORKERS/SUPPLIES TO SHENYANG RAIL CENTER 300 MILES NE TANGSHAN, TO EXPEDITE RELIEF WORK (MONRO, NYT).

FOREIGN GROUPS ASKED CANCEL PLANS VISIT PEKING. HOTELS BEING EMPTIED RAPIDLY OF FOREIGN GUESTS. MANY CHINESE EXPECT ALERT FOR NEW QUAKE MAY CONTINUE TWO-FOUR WEEKS (MUNRO, NYT 7/31, SUN 7/31).

SULLIVAN (NYT 7/31) PRESENTS SCIENTIFIC EXPLANATION OF QUAKE FORCES; COMPARES SEVERITY OF TANGSHAN SHOCK WITH 1923 TOKYO TREMOR.

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EXPERTS BELIEVE IMPACT OF SEVERE QUAKE ON PRC ECONOMY
WILL BE HIGHLY LOCALIZED (NYT SPECIAL, TOKYO 7/31).
MALCOLM (NYT 7/31) INTERVIEWS 17 NEW YORKERS EVACUATED
40 TOKYO AFTER CHINESE EARTHQUAKE WEDNESDAY.

REUTER (SIAN) REPORTS LIFE CONTINUES AS NORMALLY FOR
CHINESE OUTSIDE QUAKE AREA. DID NOT GET DISASTER
REPORTS FOR 24-HRS, THEN TOLD ONLY OF "LOSSES", DEATHS
(NYT).

WP'S MATHEWS (IN HK) TELLS HOW PEKING'S ADVERSARIES
IN TAIWAN HAVE SEIZED ON DEVASTATING EARTHQUAKES TO
STIR RUMORS COMMUNISTS HAVE "LOST THE MANDATE OF
HEAVEN."

KYODO REPORTS PRC POLITELY DECLINED AID OFFER BY JAPANESE,
ON GROUNDS POLICY IS NOT ACCEPT FOREIGN AID (WSTAR 7/31).
TAIWAN COLLECTING RELIEF FUNDS FOR THOSE ON MAINLAND
WHO "HAVE ALREADY SUFFERED ENOUGH" UNDER COMMUNISTS
YOKE. WILL PROBABLY GIVE TO RED CROSS (NYT SPECIAL,
TAIPEI). PRC "HAS NOT DIGNIFIED" TAIWAN EFFORT WITH
RESPONSE (WP 8/1). HABIB

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